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Security Council

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Identical letters dated 19 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Following my letters dated 16 April, 17 April and 18 April 2012 and upon instruction from my Government, I have the honour to attach herewith a detailed list of violations of the plan for cessation of violence which have been committed by armed groups in Syria on 18 April 2012 (see annex).

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annex were urgently circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 19 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

Wednesday, 18 April 2012

Homs governorate

1. The bodies of the following two men were taken to the military hospital: conscript As'ad Ahmad al-As'ad of the 554th regiment, special forces, who was killed in Jabb al-Jandali quarter, and Staff Sergeant Amir Ali Ali, of the 101st regiment, Republican Guard, who was killed in the Khalidiyah quarter. Thirty-six soldiers and one civilian were also treated for shrapnel and gunshot wounds in various parts of the city of Homs and the surrounding countryside.

2. Army checkpoints were fired on and armed men deployed and erected barricades in the following quarters: Safsafah, the city markets, Khalidiyah, Qusur, Jurat al-Shiyah, Bab Tadmur, Qarabis, Hamidiyah, Maydan, Masabigh, Matahin roundabout and Ashira. Mortars were launched into certain residential areas.

3. At 0145 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on law enforcement forces in the village of Na'amah in the Qusayr area, injuring two men.

4. At 0222 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on law enforcement forces in the market, close to the old seraglio, injuring a chief warrant officer.

5. At 1000 hours, six bodies were taken by the civil defence to the military hospital in Homs from the Bayyadah and Dair Ba'albah quarters. One was the body of Chief Warrant Officer Muhammad Sulaiman al-Ali, of the Station section in Homs, who had been absent from his section since 12 April 2012, when he was abducted by an armed terrorist group while on the way to work. Another body was that of Ismail Muhammad Rafiq Kan'an. Four others, which were riddled with bullets, were unidentifiable.

6. At 1100 hours, Muhammad Walid al-Faraj was dead on arrival at Baisan hospital, having been hit in the head by unidentified armed men in that village.

7. Tamarah bint Burhan Bayraqdar reported that a terrorist group had abducted her husband, Ayman bin Kathim Efendi, as he was on his way home from work.

8. At 1200 hours, Basim Isa Abboud reported that unknown persons had stolen his car, licence plate No. 262922 (Homs), from in front of his house.

9. At 1300 hours, Ismail Salim Khudur reported that his car, licence plate No. 425853 (Homs), had been stolen from the Ghutah quarter on 13 April 2012.

10. Ghazi Amin al-Haddad reported that his car, licence plate No. 261880 (Homs), had been stolen from the Wa'r quarter by unknown persons.

11. At 1400 hours, Ammar bin Husain al-Kurdi was taken to the National Hospital in Salmiyah, having been shot by armed men on the Jabiriyah–Mashrafah road as he was going to work in the municipality of Mashrafah.

12. At 1400 hours, Khadr bin Musa al-Shadd was taken to the Ahli Hospital after being shot by an armed terrorist group in a pickup vehicle in the village of Wahah, Saane al-Aswad district, as he was driving in his car. Bassam bin Elias Yaziji was also treated for a bullet wound to the shoulder. He had been shot by an unidentified sniper close to the Muhajirin park.

13. At 1400 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on a law enforcement forces checkpoint in Talbisah, injuring one conscript.

14. At 1430 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on the police department in Hamidiyah, injuring one police officer.

15. At 1453 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on the police headquarters building, killing conscript police officer Muhammad Hasan Abu Ras and injuring two other men.

16. At 1630 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on a law enforcement forces checkpoint at the cultural centre in the city, injuring one conscript.

17. At 1700 hours, the body of Ali Bassam Hamadah was taken to the Ahli Hospital. He had been shot by an unidentified sniper while in front of his house in the Abbasiyah quarter.

18. Armed men deployed in and took full control over Rastan, Qusayr, Husn and Talbisah and the surrounding countryside.

19. Several projectiles were fired at the security checkpoint in Qarabis.

20. There was a clash with a terrorist group that attacked the Jusiyah-Kharrab crossing point.

21. While carrying out their duties in Qusur, law enforcement forces clashed with a group of armed men. Three were killed and 13 others injured.

22. Three officers travelling in the city in a military vehicle were fired on and injured.

Idlib governorate

23. At 0630 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on law enforcement forces in the Ariha region, killing one man and injuring another eight.

24. At 0730 hours, an armed group targeted law enforcement forces, detonating an explosive device on the Nabi Ayyub–Juzif road in Jabal al-Zawiyah. Two men were injured.

25. At 0800 hours, an armed terrorist group abducted military conscript Ahmad Mahmud al-Na'san, from the village of Kafr Uwaid, when he was at the Ma'rrah bus station waiting to travel to join his unit in Hasakah governorate.

26. At 0810 hours, an armed group broke down the door of the garage of the Armanaz health centre and stole the centre's ambulance.

27. At 0915 hours, an armed group targeted law enforcement forces, detonating an explosive device on the Kansafrah–Balyun road. Conscripts Adnan Sulaiman and Munthir Sulaiman were killed and three others injured, including a first lieutenant and a second lieutenant.

28. At 0930 hours, an armed group targeted law enforcement forces, detonating an explosive device on the Ariha–Idlib road at Mastumah, killing First Lieutenant Tamam Hasun and conscripts Anas Idris, Hassan Arnus and Faraj Ismail and injuring seven other men.

29. At 1000 hours, an armed group abducted police officer Ala al-Yahya in the town of Ma'rrah as he was travelling to join his unit in the Salihin police department in Aleppo.

30. At 1100 hours, an armed group abducted police officer Saddam Haj Sulaiman in Hasakah as he was on his way to work.

31. At 1200 hours, an armed group abducted Majid al-Taha, an employee of the Ariha Bakery and police officer Muhammad Isa of the Ariha police station, in his private car, and stole the sum of 560,000 Syrian pounds. Both men were subsequently released.

32. At 1300 hours, a terrorist group abducted conscript Mu'ath Abbas Muhammad al-Qasab from the village of Saraqib, and tortured and killed him. His body was found in the village of Ma'arrat Dibsah.

33. At 1300 hours, an explosive device was detonated on the Balyun–Kansafrah road, hitting a private Suzuki vehicle being driven by Hamada Qudur, who was killed.

34. At 1300 hours, an armed group attacked special services officers close to the cultural centre in Armanaz. The attack was sustained for five hours.

35. At 1320 hours, an armed group abducted Chief Warrant Officer Salah Muhammad al-Dani in the town of Ma'arrat al-Nu'man and demanded a ransom of 500,000 Syrian pounds for his release.

36. At 1400 hours, an armed group opened fire on a law enforcement forces patrol on the Jisr al-Shughur–Ladhiqiyah road, injuring two men.

37. At 1500 hours, a lawyer, Riyadh Saimu' bin Muhammad, who works for the Mutawasitah olive oil company in the village of Hazzanu, reported to the administrator of Ma'arrat Misrin that on 13 April 2012, a number of persons had broken into the premises of the company and stolen a vehicle, licence plate No. 730890 (Idlib), and three computers.

38. At 2000 hours, conscripts Sergeant Lazkin bin Muhammad Abdulaziz and Muhammad Ahmad al-Hilal, who serve at the central area command in Homs, reported to the administrator of the Abu Thuhur province that they had been going on leave from their unit. When their bus got to the area east of Salmiyah, it was stopped by 10 armed men who took 11 conscripts away in a northerly direction. In the east of the Abu Duhur area, one of the cars being used for the abduction broke down, and the abductors released all their captives after robbing them of their mobile telephones and whatever else they had.

39. At 2030 hours, on the Aleppo-Damascus highway, an armed terrorist group clashed with army forces stationed in the area. There were no casualties.

40. An armed group targeted law enforcement forces, planting five explosive devices in Jabal Arba'in at the Babur junction. The devices were dismantled.

41. Army checkpoints were fired on and armed men deployed and erected barricades in the towns of Idlib, Harim, Ma'rrah and Salqin.

42. An explosive device was detonated at the southern approach to Idlib, killing a first lieutenant and three men and injuring seven others.

43. A number of bodies were found in a well between Binnish and Sarmin. Three bodies were removed, one of which was that of a police officer.

44. Armed groups opened fire on police officer Tha'ir Abu Shalash and his wife, who is also a police officer, in Ma'arrah, killing him and injuring her.

45. The administrator of Ma'arrah, Colonel Hassan Ghunum, was abducted in the village of Hamidiyah in the Qusur area. A video was recorded in which he was portrayed as a renegade and he was then released.

46. As Major General Fu'ad Hamuda, chief of special forces, was being escorted along the Mastumah–Idlib road, there was an explosion which killed six soldiers and injured 11 others.

Hasakah governorate

47. Armed men on a motor-cycle fired on men guarding the Gharbi dam.

48. An armed group opened fire on the central prison in Hasakah, causing material damage.

Raqqa governorate

49. At 0500 hours, an armed group stole three articulated trucks with a cargo of wheat and soy beans, on the Madinat al-Thawrah-Sukhnah road. The vehicles were retrieved and returned to their drivers.

Dayr al-Zawr governorate

50. At 0030 hours, an armed group opened fire on the law enforcement checkpoint in the city.

51. Four security and law enforcement police officers — Diya'addin Jamil, Ali al-Khudr Taha, Hussein Abdulmajid al-Assaf and Muhammad Tarkan al-Hamad — were travelling towards the village of Ayyash in a taxi driven by police officer Al-Taha in order to visit a member of Air Intelligence. At 1600 hours their vehicle was stopped by armed men on motorcycles who made them step out of the vehicle and asked for their identity documents and professions. The officers answered that they were labourers on an excursion to the countryside. The men then led them to a house, where they telephoned the officers' relatives, who confirmed that they were labourers. The men were convinced and released the officers, who were able to observe that there were other armed men and various weapons in the house, and that the men were in contact with a military council in Turkey and were smuggling weapons.

52. At 2015 hours, an armed terrorist group set up a road block in on the Dayr al-Zawr-Abu Kamal road in Qawriya city, at Jazirah quarter junction. Passing cars were stopped and searched.

53. An armed group entered the entered the water pumping station in Umm Hamam village on the Euphrates and stopped the flow of water to the oil wells. The armed men eventually left, threatening to kill the guard if the flow of water resumed. The area around the water station remains tense.

54. A mine exploded in the Dayr al-Zawr desert, injuring seven people.

55. In the Gharanij quarter, locality of Hajin, district of Abu Kamal, an armed terrorist group abducted Dr. Husam Saliha, the director of the Bahrah village health centre. Dr. Saliha was released after his relatives paid a ransom of 600,000 Syrian pounds.

Dar'a governorate

56. At 0015 hours, armed men opened fire on the Mukhayyam police station and on army checkpoints on the Sadd road in Dar'a city.

57. At 0115 hours, four armed men posing as security agents stormed the home of Muhannad Walid al-Kawsani and stole his car before escaping.

58. At 1030 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire from several directions on law enforcement officers at the Samad-Busra al-Sham triangle.

59. At 0200 hours, armed terrorist groups attacked and opened fire on law enforcement checkpoints in the town of Busra al-Harir.

60. At 0615 hours, an armed terrorist group opened heavy fire on the law enforcement checkpoint in Dar'a town.

61. At 0730 hours, Fawwaz Salih Abdulrahman was taken to Dar'a National Hospital after being shot in the back by an unidentified assailant.

62. At 0820 hours, armed men travelling in a car driven by Rami Abu Nubut drove around Dar'a warning employees at gunpoint that they should not go to work or open their shops.

63. At 0920 hours, unidentified armed men shot and killed police officer Raghib Yusuf Qasqas of the Dar'a Migration Office while he was going to work in a private car. Four armed men robbed Riyad Ali al-Safadi, an employee at the Syriatel Centre in Dar'a, taking 18,000 Syrian pounds and a company-owned Suzuki Jeep before escaping.

64. At 0930 hours, two armed men on a motorcycle opened fire on law enforcement officers in a private civilian car in Da'il.

65. At 1030 hours, an armed terrorist group abducted Warrant Officer Muhammad Musa Khalil on the Dar'a-Shaykh Miskin road while he was going to work.

66. At 1130 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on the home of Ammar Mahmud al-Ghusayn in the town of Shara'i', causing only material damage.

67. At 1330 hours, an armed group raided the Water Resources Authority of Muzayrib, stealing 11 government motorcycles and some furniture.

68. At 1340 hours, a group of 100 armed terrorists opened fire and threw Molotov cocktails at the law enforcement checkpoint at the Khawlah bint al-Azwar mosque in Harah town.

69. At 1400 hours, an armed terrorist group attacked and beat Abdulkarim Sa'daddin Ibrahim, taking his identity card, health insurance card and a sum of money.

70. At 1450 hours, a terrorist group attacked the home of First Warrant Officer Ghazi Mahlush Sa'id al-Hajj Ali, shooting and killing him.

71. At 1500 hours, unidentified armed men opened fire on the army checkpoint in Da'il city. There were no injuries.

72. At the same time, in Busra al-Sham city, Ali Abdulrahman al-Masri stole a private car, licence plate No. 574301 (Dar'a), at gunpoint from Abdulaziz Abdullah Khudr.

73. At 1530 hours, an armed terrorist group abducted Captain Rami Hassan Jum'a near the Bilal al-Habashi mosque. They took his weapon and beat and tortured him, inflicting bruises and other wounds. He succeeded in escaping and was hospitalized.

74. At 1630 hours, an armed terrorist group blocked the road near Sahwah, checking identity cards. First Warrant Officer Tariq al-Khawalidah was abducted but succeeded in escaping to his workplace.

75. At 1645 hours, at the funeral of the conscript Yusuf al-Qawarit, an armed terrorist group infiltrated among the mourners opened fire.

76. At 2000 hours, in Namir town, masked men on a motorbike threw a noise bomb at the alcoholic beverage shop belonging to Ayman Mansur without causing damage.

77. The man whose body was found on the Dar'a-Busra al-Harir road was identified as Ibrahim Uqayl Sa'daddin al-Hariri.

78. Unidentified men armed opened fire on the army checkpoint at Khirbat Ghazalah bridge on the Damascus-Dar'a highway.

79. Unidentified armed men opened fire on the home of First Warrant Officer Abdulkarim Nuwayran of the Dar'a law enforcement forces without harming him.

80. An armed group abducted the son of the first party branch of Khirbat Ghazalah.

81. Warrant Officer Ghazi Musa al-Hajj Ali of the law enforcement forces was shot in front of his home by armed men.

82. There was an exchange of fire between security forces and armed groups which had mounted an assault in Dar'a town. A civilian was killed.

83. Shots were fired at the security checkpoint in Samad village.

84. Noise bombs exploded on the eastern road into Dar'a.

85. Shots were fired at the security checkpoint on the Sadd road in Dar'a, killing a policeman.

86. In quarters of Dar'a city, armed men fired shots, threw noise bombs and set fire to tyres in order to prevent employees and pupils from going to work or school.

Aleppo governorate

87. At 0900 hours, an armed terrorist group attacked the Arab Socialist Baath Party branch in A'zaz city, killing Muhammad Ahmad Ali, a member of the branch party leadership, and stealing weapons and ammunition.

88. At 1500 hours, an armed terrorist group attacked law enforcement forces on the road south of the Dayr Jamal district, opening fire and detonating an explosive device.

89. At 1900 hours, an armed terrorist group blocked the Homs–Aleppo road at the Uwayniah al-Batush–Khanasir turnoff and stopped cars and checked identification.

90. At 1900 hours, on the Khanasir-Athriya road, ten individuals armed with machine guns, Russian rifles and pistols, travelling in two cars, raided Karnak bus 771804 (Homs) belonging to the Siraj company and driven by Muhammad Ahmad Talib, forcing it to pull over. The armed men abducted ten conscripts and took them to an unknown location. Officers from the Buwaydir station in Sinjar came to the rescue and opened fire. They captured one of the armed men, Mahmud Fu'ad Bakkar.

91. The Manbij courthouse depository was broken into and plundered; 48 weapons were taken.

92. At 1915 hours, an armed group stopped a minibus on which a number of police academy cadets were travelling. They abducted 25 policemen, 12 of them from Suwayda and five from Ladhiqiyah, before leaving in the direction of Idlib governorate.

93. On the Salamiya road, an armed group abducted seven conscripts who were travelling from Damascus to Aleppo.

94. Near the locality of Khansar, an armed group abducted ten soldiers who were travelling from Damascus to Aleppo.

Hama governorate

95. At 0600 hours, an armed terrorist group abducted Fayiz Ramadan in front of the bakery in Hamra locality.

96. At 0900 hours, Basil Abdu al-Sheikh alleged to the administrator of Muhradah that, at 0400 hours, four masked persons armed with a military pistol, a hand grenade, a sword and a wood saw entered his home in Muhradah and stole 300,000 Syrian pounds, a gold ring and two mobile telephones.

97. At 1100 hours, Khalil Ali Darwish alleged to the administrator of Muhradah that several armed persons abducted his son, Firas, from his home.

98. At 1120 hours, two armed persons stole a taxi near Mu'ardis village.

99. At 1330 hours, an armed terrorist group shot and killed Yusuf Sulayman al-Sha'ban as he was working his fields in Rabi'ah village.

100. At 1400 hours, Faysal Ahmad al-Jukhdar presented himself at the Hamidiyah Police Department and alleged that two persons armed with military pistols stole his Government-owned motorcycle, licence plate No. 13625 (Hama), in Hadir quarter.

101. At 1600 hours, Mahir Ali C sab, the driver of an articulated truck, licence plate number No. 777193 (Aleppo), carrying 40 tons of barley; Abdulrazzaq Subhi Homsi, the driver of an articulated truck, licence plate No. 825502 (Aleppo), carrying 39 tons of soya feed; and Mahmud Jum'ah al-Hamadah, the driver of an articulated truck, licence plate No. 787519 (Aleppo), carrying 40 tons of soya feed, presented themselves to the administrator of Salamiyah after 15 armed persons in three unnumbered pickup trucks had intercepted and then taken them towards Jabal Sha'ir, near Tuwaynan village, Homs governorate, where they unloaded their cargo. The entire cargo was recovered after patrols were dispatched to the location.

102. At 1630 hours, an armed group fired on the law enforcement forces checkpoint at the Mizrab bridge.

103. At 1700 hours, an armed group detonated several explosive devices at various locations in Hama.

104. At 1800 hours, an armed group stormed Ibrahim al-Sawwaf School in the Qusur quarter and set fire to the administration and records offices, both of which were gutted.

105. At 1900 hours, the child Ahmad Muhammad Mubid was taken to Ammuri Hospital in Hama. He had been struck by a stray bullet fired by unidentified persons as he was travelling in a hired vehicle near the Mizrab bridge with his father and mother, Zuhaynah Ahmad al-Shami.

106. At 2200 hours, an armed terrorist group fired on the Ta'awuniyah quarter checkpoint, without causing any casualties.

107. At 2230 hours, some 10 masked persons in camouflage military uniforms armed with rifles entered the home of Zakariya Musa al-Khalif, located in southern Mal'ab quarter, and shot and killed him and his family.

108. At 2245 hours, an armed terrorist group fired a rocket-propelled grenade at the special operations (mechanized) battalion. In the ensuing gunfire, army conscript Abdulrazzaq bin Khalaf al-Hussein was killed.

109. At 2300 hours, Samir Muhammad Ya'qub and the Lebanese national Ibrahim Said al-Danawi were taken to Birr Hospital in Salamiyah after they had been struck by bullets fired by unidentified persons.

110. In Qal'at al-Madiq, an unidentified body that showed signs of torture was found.

111. The body of an unidentified person who had been shot dead was found in Qubaybat al-Asi quarter.

112. Armed persons abducted a police officer and stole his vehicle in Hama city.

113. A terrorist group stormed a home in Hama city and killed a couple and their three daughters.

114. A burnt Hyundai vehicle with blood spots next to it was discovered on the Hama-Homs road. The vehicle was transferred to the criminal security department for investigation.

115. A terrorist group abducted judge Sinan Uthman from his home in Kafr Nabudah village. The terrorists released him after they had beaten him and stolen his official car.

Damascus governorate

116. At 0110 hours, an armed terrorist group detonated an explosive device in Barzah.

117. At 0115 hours, a terrorist group detonated an explosive device in car at the Amin roundabout in the Shaghur area, causing material damage.

118. At 2100 hours, Rida Ayub bin Muhammad was shot dead by masked persons.

119. Security officers defused an explosive device opposite police headquarters.

120. There was an explosion in Uruba Street, Yarmuk camp.

Rif Dimashq governorate

121. At 2315 hours, an armed terrorist group fired on the law enforcement forces checkpoint at Madaya, killing a law enforcement officer.

122. At 1240 hours, an armed terrorist group stole a vehicle belonging to the law enforcement forces in Duma.

123. At 1345 hours, an armed terrorist group abducted Major Iyad Ahmad Muflih and Staff Sergeant Ja'far Thabit Ja'far on the Damuscus-Homs road.

124. Armed person travelling in two cars, one bearing a stolen Government licence plate, attacked an army and security services checkpoint in Duma. The attackers fled and were pursued by Lieutenant Colonel Wa'il Hasan and a chief warrant officer. The Lieutenant Colonel was killed in the ensuing clash and the chief warrant officer seriously injured.

125. In Hirista, two armed persons stole two government vehicles, one of which was assigned to the army and the other to the Property Registry, licence plate No. 538936 (Damascus).

126. In the town of Kiswah, an armed group stole the rifle of the guard of the steam power plant located in Dayr Ali town.

127. In Mulayhah, an armed group stole a Government car belonging to the General Communications Agency.

128. An armed group stole a Government-owned Mercedes 230 vehicle assigned to the Arab Centre for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD) from its driver, Jamal Abud.

129. While observers were present in Irbin, an armed group hurled a bomb at an army checkpoint. In the ensuing exchange of gunfire, a law enforcement officer was wounded in the foot by shrapnel.

130. Two bodies were found in Zamalka and another in Darayya; the body of a person who had been shot dead was found in Qatana.

131. An intelligence service warrant officer was abducted in Hajar al-Aswad.

132. Some 5,350,000 Syrian pounds were stolen from the Qutayfah savings office.

133. Armed persons attacked the army checkpoint at Buqayn, killing a soldier.

134. The body of an unidentified person in his fifties who had been hanged to death was found near Ma'mun swimming pool.

135. In Darayya, the body of an unidentified person in his thirties was found near the Dahadil road. The victim had been shot twice, once in the head and once in the chest.

136. In the Zayn quarter of Babila town, Isa Muhammad Isra'il died of a bullet to the head.

137. In Duma, the body of Fayiz Darwish bin Darwish was found after he had been fired on at his farm.

138. A Mazda pickup truck, licence plate No. 878194, belonging to the Tishrin steam power plant was stolen from the engineer Ahmad Ghunaym.

139. An armed group fired on the army checkpoint at the Misraba turnoff, without causing any casualties.

Ladhiqiyah governorate

140. At 0900 hours, Ahmad Hussein Mustafa, an employee of the Agriculture Development Department in Ladhiqiyah, alleged to the [administrator] of Kinnsibba locality, Haffah, that, on 15 April 2012, armed persons in Aku village stole from him a TRX vehicle, licence plate No. 48-2-1, belonging to the Department.

141. At 1320 hours, as Abdullah Hasan Hussein and Ahmad Tawfiq Fahham, both employees of Jawd Company, were travelling on a road that branched off the old Ladhiqiyah-Aleppo highway on their way to Wadi Shaykhan village, 10 persons armed with Russian rifles and pump-action guns intercepted them and stole their vehicle, a Hyundai van, licence plate No. 523602 (Ladhiqiyah), belonging to the above-mentioned company. The attackers also stole 3,000 Syrian pounds and three mobile telephones before they disappeared from view.

142. At 1400, some dynamite was remotely detonated as a military truck travelled along the new Ladhiqiyah-Aleppo road. There were some troops on board the truck, which was transporting food to army troops in Idlib province. Armed persons fired on the troops from the surrounding mountains and forests, and the troops returned fire. Three soldiers were injured.

143. At 1600 hours, the administrator of Salinfah locality, Haffah, was informed that a person on a motorcycle was pointing a military pistol at the citizens of Khirbat al-Baz village. Accompanied by a patrol, he immediately went to the village and was able to apprehend the armed man, Muhammad bin Yahya Fatu, who was also in possession of a Russian rifle and a mandate-era flag.

144. Three military vehicles were attacked using a mine near Kinnsibba bridge. Three soldiers were injured in the armed clash that ensued.

145. Shots were fired at a joint security checkpoint on the Aleppo road.

Syrian–Lebanese border

146. At 2015 hours, an armed terrorist group attempted to infiltrate and smuggle weapons into Syrian territory at the Za'iran crossing. Three terrorists were arrested and the weapons and ammunition were impounded.

147. At 0600 hours, five armed terrorists attempted to infiltrate from Lebanese territory into Syrian territory in the Jarajir area and take 30 rifle magazines containing 880 rounds of ammunition to armed men in Baba Amr. They were arrested.

148. At 1630 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on the border guard in the Jusiyah area.

Syrian–Turkish border

149. At 2100 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on the border guard at the Azmarin village junction.

150. At 2325 hours, an armed terrorist group attacked and opened fire on the border guard position in Salqin–Allanah.

Syrian–Iraqi border

151. At 2125 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire from the direction of Iraqi territory on the border guard in the Huri–Abu Kamal area.

152. At 1530 hours, an armed terrorist group opened fire on the border guard post in Taghlib in an attempt to cross into Syrian territory. There was a clash, and the armed men fled.

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Crime prevention and criminal justice

International drug control

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Letter dated 20 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Libya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the Tripoli Plan of Action, which was adopted at the regional ministerial conference on border security held in Tripoli on 11 and 12 March 2012. The conference was attended by ministers responsible for border security from Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, the Sudan and Tunisia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council, in the context of the open debate to be held on 25 April 2012 entitled "Threats to international peace and security: securing borders against illicit flows", and of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly under agenda items 107, 108, 109 and 118.

(*Signed*) Abdurrahman Mohamed **Shalgham**
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Regional Ministerial Conference on Border Security

Opportunities for promoting operational cooperation

Tripoli, 11 and 12 March 2012

Tripoli Plan of Action

I. Background information

On 28 January 2012, at the African Union summit in Addis Ababa, the Prime Minister of Libya announced that his country intended to host a conference of neighbouring States (Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Niger, Sudan and Tunisia) and concerned States of the Maghreb and North Africa (Mali, Mauritania and Morocco) in order to discuss and tackle some of the most significant border security challenges facing the region. The conference would aim to encourage relevant contact and operational cooperation between Libya and neighbouring States, and to define specific procedures to promote, integrate and stimulate such initiatives at the national, bilateral, subregional and regional levels. That firm commitment to bilateral and regional cooperation, which was grounded in international law and transparent standards, was intended to consolidate mutual trust and amicable relations among participating States.

Such cooperation should consist primarily of the organized exchange of information and skills; meetings and joint training sessions; the formation of common structures and arrangements for communication under bilateral agreements; close cooperation with the relevant international and regional organizations; cooperation in the context of instruments and work programmes; and the establishment of a common work programme for consultation and cooperation on border security issues.

At the preparatory technical meeting held on 9 and 10 March 2012, representatives and experts from participating States examined the salient security challenges with a view to reaching a common understanding of their nature and extent. They agreed on a set of immediate and medium to long-term measures at the national, bilateral, subregional and regional levels aimed at promoting cooperation in confronting those challenges. The response to the common security challenges identified, along with the agreed initiatives and procedures, would constitute a plan of action for implementation and follow-up.

II. A common understanding of the current security challenges

The delegations identified and discussed the principal issues of common interest. They set out their understanding of the nature, scope and principal causes of the border security challenges facing each of the countries and the region as a whole. The following issues and dimensions should be taken into consideration.

Threats and risks

The risks affecting national and regional security, and their root socio-economic causes, were analysed along the following lines:

Weapons proliferation and other forms of trafficking and smuggling

- Man-portable air defence systems (MANPADs);
- Chemical, nuclear and biological weapons of mass destruction;
- Landmine procedures;
- Proliferation of small arms and light weapons;
- Drug trafficking;
- Other forms of illicit trafficking, including cigarettes; commercial fraud;
- Illicit trafficking in petroleum products.

Counter-terrorism and law enforcement

- Analysis of common risks and threats, including groups in the Sahel and armed elements;
- Transnational legal and judicial cooperation: exchange of information on judicial processes for detention, arrest warrants and reports of investigations;
- Exchange of information regarding financial tracking, financing of terrorism and money-laundering.

Border security and management, including illegal migration

- Human trafficking / organized crime;
- Reception centres and expulsion or voluntary repatriation;
- Socio-economic conditions, including cross-border movement;
- Management structures.

1. Causes underlying the threats to border security

- Poverty, marginalization and unemployment;
- Armed conflict, wars and fragile security situations;
- Natural disasters, including drought and floods;
- Ethnic overlap, which results in nomadic peoples failing to comply with legal border restrictions;
- The search for a better economic situation;
- The exploitation of migrants' situation by organized crime;
- Lack of an effective mechanism to control cross-border weapons proliferation.

2. **Specific challenges**

- Limited human resources specialized in border security;
- Paucity of modern technical logistics;
- Insufficient border monitoring posts;
- Limited coordination and harmonization with regard to specialized training in border security;
- Lack of cooperation mechanisms allowing operational field coordination to tackle certain regional issues; inadequacy of regional mechanisms for operational and intelligence coordination.

3. **Proposed solutions**

- Focusing on sustainable human development and addressing the specific development needs of border regions with a view to raising the living standards of the inhabitants, thereby strengthening border security;
- Providing specialist training on border security;
- Using advanced electronic technologies for border security;
- Developing legislation on organized crime and terrorism;
- Drawing on the skills and capacities of international organizations to provide specialized training programmes;
- Examining the feasibility of establishing a common information centre with a view to potential joint operations;
- Reaching a common understanding and definition of the challenges;
- Coordinating with the United Nations and the European Union to promote cooperation, particularly economic, development and security cooperation, in order to resolve the problems and challenges facing regional States;
- Arranging the provision of material support through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, including assistance made available by the concerned international and regional organizations, international financial institutions such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, and development banks;
- Urging advanced States to comply with their commitments to provide material and technical support.

III. Promotion of bilateral and regional cooperation

The participants agree that border security and its comprehensive management are functions of the sovereignty and responsibilities of each State. They also agree, however, on the transnational nature of many of the fundamental socio-economic causes of the criminal activities that endanger their security and stability. They therefore believe that the concept of safe borders should be promoted in a comprehensive and coordinated manner through the following steps:

- Examining the possibility of establishing a committee of experts and specialists that would meeting periodically at the bilateral and regional levels to consult and exchange views on border security;
- Organizing joint training sessions for personnel across the region, to be held at domestic, regional and international training centres as well those of any other States or organizations that wish to contribute;
- Strengthening the role of regional organizations in the area of border security;
- Strengthening bilateral and multilateral border security agreements;
- Adopting a common strategy to promote legal and judicial cooperation;
- Requesting customs specialists to develop cooperation mechanisms;
- Exploring a mechanism to monitor financial transactions linked to border threats;
- Emphasizing a comprehensive approach to illegal migration issues, and enshrining the principle of the common responsibility of origin, transit and destination countries;
- Affirming that each State will be involved in any collective discussions on border security;
- Establishing a joint committee on cooperation and coordination in securing borders.

The preparatory meeting at the expert level examined the following immediate and medium-term practical measures at the national, bilateral and regional levels for referral to the Regional Ministerial Conference on Border Security.

- **Information sharing: surveillance, intelligence and analysis of regional and transnational risks and threats**

Immediate measures

- Considering the establishment or promotion of a regional information sharing mechanism with regard to all threats;
- Conducting a comprehensive analysis of the risks arising from insecurity and the root causes of migration; creating opportunities for targeted and effective forms of socio-economic and other assistance across the region with support from the United Nations, regional donors and other partners;
- Convening face-to-face expert meetings of experts in related sectors to create practical mechanisms to implement these decisions.

Medium and long-term measures

- Creating facilities for the exchange of electronic information on organized crime, terrorism, financing of terrorism and money-laundering;
- Establishing a research centre to examine the issues and propose appropriate solutions.

• **Border security and management and illegal migration**

In order to explore means to enforce border security and curtail illegal migration flows from a cause-and-effect perspective, States' experiences were examined and the following recommendations were made.

1. Neighbouring States should endeavour to foster security cooperation and secure land and sea borders by taking the following steps:

(a) Creating and enhancing electronic systems to monitor and protect borders;

(b) Exchanging information regarding criminal networks in general and, in particular, networks trafficking in illegal migrants, weapons, drugs and so on;

(c) Developing the border regions, particularly by improving living standards and infrastructure in order to guarantee border security;

(d) Exploring bilateral mechanisms in order to resolve potential difficulties at the borders;

(e) Training personnel to combat transnational crime.

2. Machine-readable documents using biometric data should be adopted in order to tackle counterfeiting.

3. The concerned States should be invited to put in place legal restrictions to curb illegal migration and strengthen international agreements.

4. All available means should be used, at the domestic and international levels, to foster socio-economic development with a view to limiting illegal migration.

5. Each country could appoint focal points in order to coordinate efforts to secure borders and combat illegal migration.

6. Programmes should be put in place in order to raise awareness of the dangers of illegal migration.

7. With the support of the international community and relevant international organizations, rapid solutions should be elaborated, including ways to develop disadvantaged areas and create jobs for marginalized people.

Counter-terrorism measures

Immediate measures

- The concerned States should establish, foster and train comprehensive and specialized counter-terrorism units. Countries that so wish should exchange expertise and benefit from material and technical support from the European Union and other bilateral partners, maintaining contact with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

- Regional States should examine the feasibility of establishing a database to exchange information on counter-terrorism and relevant security threats. Any participating State would thus be able to access information on, for instance, the locations of terrorists, smugglers and non-State armed groups.

- Regional States should examine the feasibility of establishing a counter-terrorism fund.

- Immediate and tangible measures should be taken in order to address and combat terrorism, with a particular focus on strengthening citizens' resistance to extremist ideological trends, especially in border regions.

- Based on the agreement of the States participating in the conference, multilateral cooperation among African States should be consolidated and extended, and the African counter-terrorism mechanisms should be highlighted.

Medium and long-term measures

- With material and technical support from CTED, each country should put in place its own strategies and full, comprehensive national mechanisms for the implementation of counter-terrorism procedures.

- All of the procedures required under Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) should be implemented. National authorities should comply with the international counter-terrorism instruments which they have ratified, and should consider inviting CTED to conduct follow-up visits in order to assist Governments.

- Parties should cooperate with CTED and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime following modalities that should be set out in a protocol. Such cooperation should include reviewing the current legal frameworks in accordance with the requests of each country's national counter-terrorism authorities. It should ensure that national legislation enshrines the offences set forth in the international counter-terrorism instruments and complies with human rights and other international standards. Legislation on money-laundering should be reviewed in order to criminalize the financing of terrorism and provide for the freezing, confiscation or seizure of funds obtained through terrorism.

- Each country should modernize its national coordination and communication mechanisms for combating terrorism and organized crime, including inter-agency cooperation and data systems. In so doing, it should benefit from capacity-building and financial and technical resources from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the European Union and other organizations.

- Each country should conduct broad campaigns to raise awareness of measures to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. The campaigns should focus on strengthening citizens' resistance to extremist ideological trends, especially in border regions.

- States should share expertise regarding the prosecution of money-laundering and other terrorism-related offences. The competent authorities and bilateral partners should be invited to offer relevant training programmes for security personnel, public prosecutors and the judiciary, in order to strengthen each country's capacity to suppress and investigate the offences set forth in the international counter-terrorism instruments.

• **Law enforcement**

Immediate measures

– A standing regional cooperation mechanism should be established with the aim of combating organized crime, illegal migration and other transnational offences. Participants could include the police force and intelligence or security agencies of each country, for instance through the ministers of the interior, or a standing committee of police chiefs, or domestic or international security agencies.

– Bilateral agreements on the principle of hot pursuit should be implemented, as should those regarding other forms of legal and judicial cooperation, such as detention orders, extradition, forwarding of extradition requests to the competent police force, investigation, court proceedings and records, and cooperation between interior and justice ministries. States should examine the possibility of concluding other such agreements.

– Each country should conclude protocols setting forth mutual arrangements with regard to focal points in order to ensure communication, coordination and information exchange on all law enforcement and security issues.

Medium and long-term measures

– A forum should be established with a view to cooperating on law enforcement training, capacity-building for law enforcement officials, information exchange and consultation on counter-terrorism.

– In order to strengthen operational cooperation among States of the region, action should be taken to establish a regional mechanism along the lines of INTERPOL to combat transnational organized crime.

• **Arms control and landmine procedures**

Immediate measures

– The concerned States should resume cooperation programmes with regard to landmine procedures.

– States should take advantage of any international funding programmes to stimulate national landmine elimination projects.

– Advanced States responsible for laying landmines should be invited to provide assistance to the affected developing countries.

– In countries that so wish, the International Civil Aviation Organization should be invited, in cooperation with national authorities, to conduct a rapid assessment of the vulnerability of international and domestic airports to attacks from MANPADs.

– Countries that so wish should form a working group to ensure bilateral and regional information exchange regarding the proliferation of MANPADs and other weapons trafficking.

– Frontline States should be urged to detect, confiscate and endeavour to destroy the weapons in circulation, particularly portable missile launchers.

– Support should be given to efforts to reintegrate armed groups into civilian life. Regional States that so wish could request assistance from the relevant international organizations and the European Union.

Medium and long-term measures

– Each country should take action to establish and maintain a national database on the proliferation of trafficked and lost small arms and light weapons. Competent authorities within each Government should exchange information at the bilateral and regional levels, establishing regional procedures to store information from the United Nations concerning weapons transfers, with particular reference to the United Nations Programme of Action on small arms and light weapons and the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms. A regional analysis of the topic should be conducted.

– The risks of regional weapons proliferation should be counteracted, and stockpile management practices should be improved, by taking national and regional action to uphold the applicable international agreements and treaties on small arms, the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines and international standards on landmine procedures.

• **Fostering bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation**

– The bilateral agreements and bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation mechanisms that are currently in force should be strengthened in respect of the dimensions set out above. The agreements should be reviewed where necessary in the light of the specific circumstances of their implementation.

– Periodic high-level discussions between agencies combating terrorism and organized crime should be encouraged and strengthened. They should be complemented by regular subregional and regional meetings, particularly in the context of the League of Arab States, the European Union and other such forums.

– Regional associations should be consolidated, including the Community of Sahel-Saharan States, the Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior, the African Union, the League of Arab States, the Arab Maghreb Union and the 5+5 initiative.

– Each regional State should affirm its respect for international laws and conventions concerning extradition, and should seek to conclude inter-State cooperation agreements.

– Bilateral and regional agreements on combating smuggling in all its aspects should be strengthened.

– Bilateral and regional cooperation and information exchange on combating drug trafficking should be intensified.

– Periodic bilateral or regional meetings should be held in order to discuss security and defence in regional States.

– The exchange of skills and training should be promoted.

– The recommendations made at this Conference should be emphasized and referred to the ministerial meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the

African Union, to be held on 16 March 2012, and the regional conference on the Sahel and northern Mali to be held in Chad.

IV. Follow-up to the Conference

The preparatory meeting at the level of experts and senior officials drafted the Tripoli Plan of Action for operational cooperation on border security. The Plan was ratified by the Regional Ministerial Conference on Border Security and will be implemented by each of the concerned Governments. In order to ensure progress, a recommendation was made to form a secretariat of member States, on an annual basis, to determine functions and structure through diplomatic channels with a view to monitoring the progress made and sharing developments. In certain cases, technical, financial and other support from bilateral and multilateral partners will be needed. A timetable for annual regional ministerial meetings through diplomatic channels was also agreed. It was decided that the host State would assess implementation of the recommendations.

The delegation of Morocco offered to host the following conference at the level of experts and ministers in late 2012; an official timetable will be determined soon.